

## Message Text

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ACTION SP-02

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INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 7022

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR NATO

SUBJ: 1976 APAG MEETING

REF: USNATO 6895, STATE 262764, USNATO 6804, BARTHOLOMEW/  
COLLINS TELCON OF DECEMBER 19, 1975

1. POLADS ADDRESSED POSSIBLE SUBJECTS FOR THE 1976 COPENHAGEN APAG MEETING DURING THEIR DECEMBER 23 SESSION (USNATO 6895). THE CHAIRMAN (KILLHAM) RECALLED THE EARLIER SUGGESTIONS BY THE US (STATE 262764) AND THE FRG (USNATO 6804). HE SUGGESTED TWO FURTHER TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION: "THE SOVIET UNION AS BOTH A GREAT POWER AND AN IDEOLOGICAL LEADER OUTSIDE EUROPE"; AND "RELATIONS AMONG WESTERN COMMUNIST PARTIES AND BETWEEN THEM AND THE USSR".

2. BASED UPON CONVERSATION WITH DEPARTMENT (BARTHOLOMEW/COLLINS TELCON OF DECEMBER 19, 1975), THE US REP SAID WE BELIEVE THE TOPICS SUGGESTED BY THE FRG DESERVE FULL EXPLORATION AND DISCUSSION WITHIN APAG. WE WOULD ACCORDINGLY BE PREPARED TO AGREE TO THE FRG-SUGGESTED TOPIC AS THE MAIN FOCUS FOR APAG DISCUSSIONS IF A CONSENSUS DEVELOPED IN THAT DIRECTION.

3. THE CANADIAN REP (HARMAN) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES PREFER THE BROADER US-SUGGESTED RUBRIC FOR THE APAG MEETING. FOR EXAMPLE, CONFIDENTIAL

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OTTAWA IS THINKING OF DOING A PAPER EXAMINING "THE STATE OF PUBLIC OPINION, IN BOTH EAST AND WEST, WITH RESPECT TO POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DETENTE AND DEFENSE." THIS TOPIC MIGHT BE FURTHER REFINED OR MODIFIED,

BUT WOULD FIT BEST INTO A BROADLY-FOCUSED MATRIX FOR THE APAG DISCUSSIONS.

4. THE DANISH REP (MORCH) REPORTED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD ALSO PREFER AS BROAD A FOCUS AS POSSIBLE. THE BELGIAN REP (BOUCKAERT) WARNED THAT THE SUBJECT MATTER FOR THE APAG MEETING SHOULD NOT BE TOO BROAD. THE NETHERLANDS REP (HORAK) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE APAG DISCUSSIONS ORIENTED MORE TOWARD FUTURE ISSUES RATHER THAN REVIEW THE PAST.

5. THE FRG REP (CITRON) SUGGESTED, AS A COMPROMISE, THAT THE APAG DISCUSSIONS FOCUS ON "THE FUTURE OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS, INCLUDING THE POSSIBLE EFFECT OF EXTRA-EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENTS OR INSTABILITIES ON THE SECURITY OF EUROPE." SPEAKING PERSONALLY, THE DANISH REP THOUGHT HIS AUTHORITIES COULD AGREE TO SUCH A COMPROMISE.

6. THE CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT THE IS COULD, ON THE BASIS OF THE DAY'S DISCUSSION, PREPARE A DRAFT AGENDA WITH SUB-TOPICS FOR THE 1976 APAG MEETING. HE WOULD HAVE THIS DRAFT IN TIME FOR THE NEXT SESSION OF THE POLADS ON JANUARY 6.

7. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUEST: WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PROVIDE ANY US PREFERENCES ON AN AGENDA OR SUB-TOPICS FOR THE 1976 APAG DISCUSSIONS TO THE IS WHILE IT IS STILL PREPARING INITIAL DRAFT TO PLACE BEFORE POLADS. ACCORDINGLY, WE SOLICIT DEPARTMENT SUGGESTIONS THAT WE CAN PRESENT TO IS BEFORE JANUARY 2, 1976. BRUCE

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